

CITY OF SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA  
**COUNCIL POLICY**

CURRENT

SUBJECT: GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT PROCEDURE  
POLICY NO.: 600-07  
EFFECTIVE DATE: February 20, 1975

BACKGROUND:

The Progress Guide and General Plan for The City of San Diego (adopted by the Council on July 20, 1967, and ratified by the voters on November 7, 1967) requires continuing review and periodic amendments if it is to function as a useful and effective guide for the growth and development of San Diego. It should be maintained in a relatively current status consistent with various specific plans, programs and policies of the City. In order to provide clear direction as to how and when the General Plan may be modified and amended, it is desirable that a policy relating to General Plan Amendment Procedure be established.

PURPOSE:

To establish a guideline for amending the Progress Guide and General Plan for The City of San Diego.

POLICY:

It shall be the policy of the City to provide for adequate periodic review and amendment of the General Plan. While the City Council or Planning Commission may find it necessary and in the public interest to initiate amendments at intervals other than those stated below, it shall be the basic policy of the City Council to observe the following procedures in relation to the review and amendment of the City's General Plan.

1. The procedural steps in amending the General Plan shall conform to those set forth in Sections 65350 to 65361, inclusive, of the Government Code of the State of California. Basically, these require successive affirmative votes by both Planning Commission and City Council, provided that each body has first conducted at least one public hearing on the proposed amendment or amendments.
2. During the latter half of each year the Planning Department shall institute a review of the General Plan for the primary purpose of updating the map. The Department shall consider possible amendments resulting from prior Council and Commission actions on specific plans, programs, policies, and major zoning issues. Pertinent actions or proposals of other City agencies that might necessitate revision of the General Plan shall also be analyzed. Finally, the accumulated requests for revisions submitted by private individuals and organizations, as well as by other public

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agencies, shall be evaluated and reported upon by staff. Public hearings to consider indicated revisions of the General Plan shall be scheduled before the Planning Commission and City Council so that determinations on such revisions may be concluded in January of each year. As soon as practicable following each annual review and the completion of amendment hearings, copies of the revised General Plan map as well as any pages containing revised text material shall be reprinted in adequate numbers.

3. As an exception to the annual review procedure, the Planning Commission shall hold public hearings on revisions to the General Plan concurrently with public hearings on proposed community plans. However, due to the limitation on the number of times that mandatory elements of the General Plan may be amended in any calendar year, imposed by Section 65361 of the Government Code, public hearings will not be scheduled on General Plan revisions concurrently with public hearings on proposed community plans at the City Council level. Instead, such revisions will be accumulated and periodically scheduled for combined public hearings and Council action, so that the limitation imposed by Section 65361 will not be exceeded.
4. Approximately every five years a comprehensive review and revision of General Plan goals, standards, recommendations and map allocations shall be undertaken by the Planning Commission and City Council with citizen participation.

**HISTORY:**

Policy 600-7 "Lot Splits"

Adopted 08/09/1960

Rescinded 10/05/1961 at Council Conference

"General Plan Amendment Procedure"

Adopted by Resolution R-193371 04/11/1968

Amended by Resolution R-212666 02/20/1975